



February 7, 2006

The Honorable Mitt Romney
Office of the Governor
State House
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Governor Romney:

The Environmental Stewardship Council (the Council) of the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) is both pleased and inspired by your request that the Legislature support the Council and DCR in moving toward our shared objectives of world class parks and natural resource conservation for the citizens of the Commonwealth. Key portions of the FY07 budget signal your Administration's commitment to deliver the results envisioned through the innovative and streamlined DCR that it established in 2003.

We applaud your DCR budget particularly in the following key areas:

- \$1,000,000 for mandated storm water management remediation, raising total storm water funding for FY '07 to \$1.5 million;
- \$512,000 for a new regulatory and oversight program for the Office of Dam Safety;
- \$125,000 for the trailside museum, raising FY'07 funding for this program to \$500,000;
- \$95,000 for a computerized work order system that will improve efficiency and effectiveness in deploying and tracking DCR activities;
- \$1,500,000 for the replacement of critical, but obsolete, vehicles and equipment; and,
- \$790,000 for implementation of the Resource Management Planning program.

These increases will improve DCR's ability to manage and improve our parks, and will move us meaningfully toward our three strategic objectives:

- Building a parks and conversation agency that sets a new precedent for all such state agencies in America.
- Delivering tangible progress toward the delivery of world class parks to the citizens of Massachusetts, and

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Mitt Romney
Governor

Kerry Healey
Lt. Governor

Stephen R. Pritchard, Secretary
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs

Stephen H. Burrington, Commissioner
Department of Conservation & Recreation

- Gaining widespread public support for DCR and for the resources it manages.

Thank you for your commitment to the Council and to DCR. We look forward to working with the Legislature to ensure the funding and commitments made in the FY07 budget are adequate to support DCR's mission.

Sincerely,

Richard R. Cross
Chairman

cc: EOEА Secretary Stephen R. Pritchard
DCR Commissioner Stephen H. Burrington
DCR Stewardship Council